News
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USDOL

NEW YORK STATE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FALLS TO 4.8 PERCENT IN 1987, A 17 YEAR LOW

RATES DOWN FOR WHITES, BLACKS AND HISPANICS; MEN AND WOMEN; ADULTS AND YOUTH

RECORD HIGH OF 8.1 MILLION EMPLOYED, UP 200,000 OVER YEAR

The unemployment rate in New York State declined sharply to 4.8 percent in 1987 from 6.3 percent in 1986, it was reported today by Samuel M. Ehrenhalt, Regional Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Ehrenhalt said that the 4.8 percent rate for New York State was the lowest in 17 years and below the national rate of 6.2 percent. The number of unemployed state residents was down sharply by 114,000 over the year to 412,000, the lowest since 1974.

Ehrenhalt said that 1987 saw improvement in the labor market situation for each major population group reviewed. The unemployment rate for whites declined to 4.2 percent in 1987 from 5.4 percent in 1986. The rate for blacks was down to 9.2 percent from 12.3 percent, and for Hispanics to 8.3 percent from 10.8 percent.

For adults, age 20 and over, the rate was down to 4.4 percent from 5.6 percent a year earlier. The male rate declined to 4.8 percent from 5.9 percent and for females to 3.9 percent from 5.1 percent. For teenagers the jobless rate dropped to 12.1 percent in 1987 from 18.0 in 1986.

The number of employed New York State residents rose sharply over the year by 201,000 to 8,083,000, a new record high. The rise in employment was accompanied by improvement in the proportion of the working age population with jobs for all major demographic groups studied, underscoring the current strength of the labor market situation in New York State.

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Analyzing labor force data for the fourth quarter Ehrenhalt noted that employment rose over the year from 7,974,000 to 8,156,000 in fourth quarter 1987. The rise in employment was broad based with improvement for whites, blacks, adults and teenagers.

Labor force data for New York State by age, race and sex are based on samples and subject to wide sampling variability. Accordingly, small differences in the estimates over time should be interpreted with caution.

NOTE: Data are preliminary and not seasonally adjusted.

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Labor - New York

Annual average unemployment rates and employment-population ratios,
United States and New York State
(not seasonally adjusted)

Age, race, and sex	Unemployment rate		Employment-population ratio*	
	1986	1987	1986	1987
United States				
All persons, 16 years and over..	7.0	6.2	60.7	61.5
White.....	6.0	5.3	61.5	62.3
Black.....	14.5	13.0	54.1	55.6
Hispanic.....	10.6	8.8	58.5	60.5
Both sexes, 20 years and over.	6.2	5.4	62.1	62.9
Male.....	6.1	5.4	73.3	73.8
Female.....	6.2	5.4	52.0	53.1
Both sexes, 16-19 years.....	18.3	16.9	44.6	45.5
New York State				
All persons, 16 years and over..	6.3	4.8	57.4	58.7
White.....	5.4	4.2	58.5	59.5
Black.....	12.3	9.2	50.4	52.4
Hispanic.....	10.8	8.3	49.2	50.5
Both sexes, 20 years and over.	5.6	4.4	59.4	60.3
Male.....	5.9	4.8	71.9	72.3
Female.....	5.1	3.9	48.8	50.0
Both sexes, 16-19 years.....	18.0	12.1	34.7	39.8
New York City as a percent of United States				
All persons, 16 years and over..	90	77	95	95
White.....	90	79	95	96
Black.....	85	71	93	94
Hispanic.....	102	94	84	83
Both sexes, 20 years and over.	90	81	96	96
Male.....	97	89	98	98
Female.....	82	72	94	94
Both sexes, 16-19 years.....	98	72	78	87

*Employment as a percent of civilian noninstitutional population.

Labor force status of the civilian noninstitutional population, New York State

(numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Annual Average 1986	Annual Average 1987
All races, 16 years and over		
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,733	13,777
Civilian labor force	8,408	8,496
Percent of population	61.2	61.7
Employment	7,882	8,083
Percent of population	57.4	58.7
Unemployment	526	412
Unemployment rate	6.3	4.8
Not in labor force	5,325	5,281
White		
Civilian noninstitutional population	11,420	11,514
Civilian labor force	7,064	7,158
Percent of population	61.9	62.2
Employment	6,684	6,855
Percent of population	58.5	59.5
Unemployment	379	303
Unemployment rate	5.4	4.2
Not in labor force	4,357	4,356
Black		
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,861	1,818
Civilian labor force	1,068	1,050
Percent of population	57.4	57.8
Employment	938	953
Percent of population	50.4	52.4
Unemployment	131	97
Unemployment rate	12.3	9.2
Not in labor force	793	768
Both sexes, 20 years and over		
Civilian noninstitutional population	12,617	12,683
Civilian labor force	7,937	8,001
Percent of population	62.9	63.1
Employment	7,495	7,649
Percent of population	59.4	60.3
Unemployment	442	353
Unemployment rate	5.6	4.4
Not in labor force	4,680	4,681
Male, 20 years and over		
Civilian noninstitutional population	5,808	5,861
Civilian labor force	4,439	4,452
Percent of population	776.4	76.0
Employment	4,175	4,239
Percent of population	71.9	72.3
Unemployment	264	213
Unemployment rate	5.9	4.8
Not in labor force	1,369	1,409
Female, 20 years and over		
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,808	6,822
Civilian labor force	3,498	3,549
Percent of population	51.4	52.0
Employment	3,321	3,410
Percent of population	48.8	50.0
Unemployment	178	140
Unemployment rate	5.1	3.9
Not in labor force	3,311	3,272
Both sexes, 16-19 years		
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,116	1,094
Civilian labor force	471	494
Percent of population	42.2	45.2
Employment	387	435
Percent of population	34.7	39.8
Unemployment	85	60
Unemployment rate	18.0	12.1
Not in labor force	645	600

Labor force status of the civilian noninstitutional population, New York State

(numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Annual Average 1986	Annual Average 1987
Hispanic		
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,442	1,470
Civilian labor force	794	809
Percent of population	55.1	55.0
Employment	709	742
Percent of population	49.2	50.5
Unemployment	86	67
Unemployment rate	10.8	8.3
Not in labor force	648	661

Labor force status of the civilian noninstitutional population, New York State

(numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Fourth quarter 1986	Fourth quarter 1987
All persons, 16 years and over		
Civilian noninstitutional population	13,746	13,788
Civilian labor force	8,433	8,554
Percent of population	61.4	62.0
Employment	7,974	8,156
Percent of population	58.0	59.2
Unemployment	459	398
Unemployment rate	5.4	4.7
Not in labor force	5,312	5,234
White		
Civilian noninstitutional population	11,541	11,567
Civilian labor force	7,154	7,228
Percent of population	62.0	62.5
Employment	6,818	6,937
Percent of population	59.1	60.0
Unemployment	336	291
Unemployment rate	4.7	4.0
Not in labor force	4,387	4,339
Black		
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,758	1,809
Civilian labor force	995	1,061
Percent of population	56.6	58.6
Employment	888	967
Percent of population	50.5	53.4
Unemployment	107	94
Unemployment rate	10.8	8.9
Not in labor force	762	748
Both sexes, 20 years and over		
Civilian noninstitutional population	12,622	12,701
Civilian labor force	7,984	8,070
Percent of population	63.3	63.5
Employment	7,593	7,735
Percent of population	60.2	60.9
Unemployment	391	335
Unemployment rate	4.9	4.2
Not in labor force	4,638	4,631
Male, 20 years and over		
Civilian noninstitutional population	5,840	5,856
Civilian labor force	4,471	4,479
Percent of population	76.5	76.5
Employment	4,232	4,289
Percent of population	72.5	73.3
Unemployment	239	190
Unemployment rate	5.3	4.2
Not in labor force	1,370	1,376
Female, 20 years and over		
Civilian noninstitutional population	6,781	6,845
Civilian labor force	3,513	3,591
Percent of population	51.8	52.5
Employment	3,361	3,445
Percent of population	49.6	50.3
Unemployment	152	146
Unemployment rate	4.3	4.1
Not in labor force	3,268	3,255
Both sexes, 16-19 years		
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,124	1,087
Civilian labor force	450	485
Percent of population	40.0	44.6
Employment	381	422
Percent of population	33.9	38.8
Unemployment	69	63
Unemployment rate	15.3	13.0
Not in labor force	674	603

Labor force status of the civilian noninstitutional population, New York State

(numbers in thousands)

Employment status	Fourth quarter 1986	Fourth quarter 1987
Hispanic		
Civilian noninstitutional population	1,524	1,447
Civilian labor force	839	796
Percent of population	55.1	55.0
Employment	758	723
Percent of population	49.7	50.0
Unemployment	81	72
Unemployment rate	9.7	9.0
Not in labor force	686	651